



Key References:

Matthew 16:15-19 (ESV)

¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

John 13:34–35 (ESV)

³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

John 14:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Romans 5:5 (ESV)

and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

“Truth can kill people... People need to know that we love and care for them before we challenge them. I don’t let anybody speak directionally into my life that I don’t know that cares and loves me. So why should people take truth from us?” – Mike Graves

Colossians 4:5–6 (ESV)

⁵ Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. ⁶ Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

1 – Built on revelation of who Jesus is

Read Matthew 16:15-19. **What was Jesus referring to when he said; “this is the rock” that he would build the church upon?**

Are the promises in those verses true for us with the same revelation?

2 – Defined by love

Read the story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37. **If Jesus re-told the parable in Nanaimo today what examples of hardship might he give? Why does Jesus link this parable to those who will “inherit eternal life”?**

Read John 13:34-35. **Explain what you think Jesus meant when he said; “love one another, just as I have loved you”. In what ways are we known for loving one another?**

Read John 14:15-17. **Why can’t someone obey the love commandment in John 13:34 without the Holy Spirit?**

If we’re not living up to these commands of Christ, where does the love we need to carry them out come from? Read Romans 5.

Mike said: *“As we fall in love with God we begin to love ourselves because we see ourselves as God sees us. If we don’t love ourselves we can’t love others.”* **What do you think he was getting at here?**

3 – Truth, love and saltiness

In Matthew 5:13-16 Jesus said we are salt and light. **If the salt pertains to speaking God’s truth can you apply too much like when eating?**

Read the quote from Mike on the left. **How must we be careful when speaking truth to someone?**

If the truth can be difficult to receive how can we fulfil The Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20?

What do you get from Colossians 4:5-6 on this subject?

This week in what situations do you want to step out in love and truth in your community?